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REUTER

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WASHINGTON, SEPT 24, REUTER - THE SENATE PANEL PROBING BILLY CARTER'S LIBYAN TIES HAS DECIDED NOT TO ASK PRESIDENT CARTER TO TESTIFY, CHAIRMAN BIRCH BAYH SAID TODAY.

THE INDIANA DEMOCRAT TOLD REPORTERS FOLLOWING A BUSINESS MEETING THAT PANEL LAWYERS WOULD SEND WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL SEEKING TO FILL IN GAPS IN THE EVIDENCE.

HE SAID THE COMMITTEE HAD FOUND NO REMAINING QUESTIONS THAT REQUIRED AN ''EYEBALL TO EYEBALL CONFRONTATION'' WITH THE PRESIDENT.

SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL PHILIP TONE SAID THE PANEL WOULD SHORTLY BEGIN DRAFTING AN INTERIM REPORT, DUE TO BE MADE PUBLIC BY OCTOBER 4. HE SAID THE PANEL WOULD DECIDE LATER WHETHER TO SUPPLEMENT IT WITH A FURTHER REPORT.

PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THE INVESTIGATION CONCLUDED LAST WEEK WITH TESTIMONY BY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI.

THE PANEL TODAY ISSUED A CENSORED TRANSCRIPT OF CLOSED-DOOR TESTIMONY BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER WHO HANDED AN INTELLIGENCE REPORT TO MR BRZEZINSKI SHOWING THAT BILLY CARTER WAS TRYING TO MAKE A DEAL TO GET EXTRA LIBYAN OIL FOR AN AMERICAN REFINER.½

ADMIRAL TURNER SAID THAT WHEN HE PASSED ON THE INFORMATION HE HAD NO IDEA THAT MR BRZEZINSKI WOULD CALL THE PRESIDENT'S BROTHER TO WARN HIM AGAINST THE DEAL.

BUT HE SAID THE ODDS WERE ''PRETTY SLIM'' THAT THE CALL COULD HAVE COMPROMISED AN INTELLIGENCE SOURCE.

HE SAID HE DID NOT PASS THE INFORMATION ON TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE HE DID NOT CONSIDER IT TO BE A LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUE.

THE DEPARTMENT WAS INVESTIGATING BILLY CARTER'S LIBYAN TIES AND LATER BROUGHT SUIT TO REQUIRE HIM TO REGISTER AS A FOREIGN AGENT.

AT ONE POINT IN THE HEARING SENATOR DENNIS DECONCINI (DEMOCRAT, ARIZONA), REFERRING TO MR BRZEZINSKI'S CALL, EXPLODED: ''I DON'T CARE HOW HE DISGUISES IT, HE IS TELLING SOMETHING OF A SENSITIVE NATURE, AND I JUST RESENT THE HELL OUT OF THE DOUBLE STANDARD AND WHAT APPEARS TO ME TO BE PEOPLE PROTECTING BRZEZINSKI AND THE PRESIDENT.

''I AM TELLING YOU, IT JUST GOES BEYOND MY BELIEVABILITY.''½

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